



# VALPO Parent



News From Valparaiso University's Parents Council | www.valpo.edu/parents | January 2009

## Dear Parent,

It is hard to believe that our daughter is now completing her senior year at Valpo. During this time, she has made lifelong friends and has learned about herself, her beliefs, and the nursing profession. She has kept quite active in academic, social, and religious activities and has become a confident and mature young woman. She has developed wonderful leadership skills and has received continued support from the faculty and staff along the way.

As a parent of a future Valpo student, you have support also. The Valparaiso University Parents Council serves as a liaison between the university and other parents. Parents Council members make themselves available to you...

- at FOCUS new student orientation in June. Members will answer your college transition questions while your student registers for classes.
- during Fall Welcome on August 22 - 24. Valpo's Parents Council Welcome Center offers refreshments, information, comfort, tissues, and an opportunity to talk one-on-one with other parents.
- at Family Weekend on Oct. 24 - 25. Your whole family will enjoy Council-arranged activities including a tailgate party and football game, dinner, jazz brunch, and Sunday worship. It's a great time to reconnect with your student and meet their new friends. It's a fun weekend!

In the meantime, if you have any questions, you are encouraged to contact any Parents Council member listed on our Web site at [valpo.edu/parents](http://valpo.edu/parents). Also, we ask that you update your e-mail address while you're there so we can communicate with you further.

We wish you well during this exciting time and look forward to helping you navigate this important chapter in your child's life.

Sincerely,

**Brent ('71) and Jan (Schur '73) Duesenberg, Co-Chairs  
Valparaiso University Parents Council**

## Faculty Achievement

Dr. Gary Morris, associate professor of physics and astronomy, was recently awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to study pollution being carried by wind currents from China to Japan before, during and after the Beijing Olympics.

Dr. Morris traveled to Japan last summer to begin collecting air quality data from the city of Sapporo. He continued working with colleagues from Hokkaido University and NASA to collect the air quality data through the end of September, and then spent October and November analyzing the data with air pollution researchers at the Frontier Research Center for Global Change in Yokohama.

Dr. Morris' research project will help quantify how much air pollution China is generating, show how that pollution is affecting neighboring Japan, and indicate the effectiveness of China's pollution control strategy for the Olympics. He will return to Japan during the same period next year to collect air pollution data at a time when Chinese emissions are likely to be closer to typical levels. Direct comparisons between the two years of data will permit a determination of the impact of China's pollution on Japan's air quality.

## Valpo on Top Again!

- *U.S. News and World Report 2008-2009* again ranks Valpo as a top school in the Midwest for overall **quality and value**. Valpo's College of Engineering ranks among the top 15% in the nation among master's level schools.
- *Princeton Review: Best 296 Business Schools* cites Valpo's College of Business Administration as one of the nation's outstanding business schools for the fifth year in a row.
- For the fourth time in five years, Valparaiso University is among the nation's leaders in producing winners of prestigious Fulbright awards for international study, research, and teaching. Three students won Fulbright awards for 2008-2009.
- Valparaiso University was recently awarded the prestigious 2008 Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization by NAFSA: Association of International Educators, the world's largest professional organization dedicated to campus internationalization efforts. The award recognizes Valpo's accomplishments in promoting international education.



## Important Dates

January 25-26	Destination Valpo Day for all admitted students
January 29-30	Destination Valpo Day for Arts & Sciences admitted students
January 30 - February 1	Harre Union Dedication
February 7	College of Nursing 40th Anniversary Gala
February 12-13	Destination Valpo Day for all admitted students
February 14	Christ College Honors Visit Day
February 22-23	Destination Valpo Day for Business, Engineering, and Nursing admitted students
March 1	FAFSA deadline
February 28 - March 15	Spring Break
March 29-30	Destination Valpo Day for all admitted students

## Did You Know?

An admitted student's date of deposit determines his or her housing placement. Depositing reserves a spot in the freshman class and retains your student's scholarship/financial aid award package. As a competitive university, it is possible that Valpo could reach capacity in a particular college or program. Deposit as soon as a decision is made and reap the benefits!



To ensure that you receive the maximum total aid package at Valpo, be sure to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by **March 1, 2009**. Your student will then be eligible for priority aid consideration. In 2007, 92% of Valpo students received financial aid. You can file the FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).



You are welcome to join in serving Valpo students through the University Guild, a national network of volunteers committed to enhancing the student experience. Consisting of alumni, parents and friends of the University, Guild members provide grant funding to campus departments and student organizations, provide scholarships to undergraduate students, and promote Valpo in their local communities. In April 2009, the Guild will host its fifth Christian Women's Conference. Learn more about this conference and the Guild at [www.valpo.edu/guild](http://www.valpo.edu/guild).



You'll find answers to many of your Valpo questions at [www.valpo.edu/parents](http://www.valpo.edu/parents).

## VAN on the Move

The Valpo Admission Network (VAN) is an international group of 750 alumni and parents who represent the University by assisting with college fairs, off-campus receptions, and sharing their Valpo stories. They also provide Valpo materials to high schools and churches and are available to chat with you and your student about careers, transitioning to college life, and other college and Valpo-related topics. If you have not received a call from a VAN member and would like to connect with one, please send an e-mail to the VAN director, Barb Lieske, at [admissions.network@valpo.edu](mailto:admissions.network@valpo.edu) or call her at 888-468-2576 (toll-free).

## Campus News

### Valparaiso University Celebrates 150th Anniversary

The 2008-2009 academic year marks Valpo's 150th Anniversary. A variety of events have been planned to honor the past, celebrate the present, and share excitement about the future. Find out more about these exciting events at [www.valpo.edu/150](http://www.valpo.edu/150).

### New Valparaiso University President Takes Office

Mark A. Heckler assumed his role as the 18th president in the 150-year history of Valparaiso University on July 1, 2008. He succeeded Alan F. Harre, who had served as president since 1988. Previously, President Heckler served the University of Colorado Denver for more than a decade, most recently as chief academic officer for the three-campus university. Learn more about President Heckler at [www.valpo.edu/president](http://www.valpo.edu/president).

### Harre Union Celebrates Grand Opening

The much-anticipated Harre Union will officially open its doors Sunday, January 4. The new facility will provide an array of amenities designed to enhance the sense of community on campus, foster leadership development, promote opportunities for service and understanding cultural diversity, support the academic program and provide a variety of services to students and the Valpo community. Visit [www.valpo.edu/union](http://www.valpo.edu/union) for more information.

## Student Alumni Association

Valpo's Student Alumni Association works to foster pride and tradition among current Valpo students so that they may develop lifelong relationships with the University after graduation. Each year, the group sponsors exciting campus events and activities such as barbecues, a Founders Day celebration, Family Weekend, Homecoming activities, a class ring ceremony, and more. These events promote school spirit and tradition while enhancing interaction between students, alumni, faculty, and staff. Learn more at [www.valpo.edu/alumni/studentalumniassociation](http://www.valpo.edu/alumni/studentalumniassociation).



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## Go Green with Earthtones

David Fritsch, Class of 2009 | Major: Environmental Science | Lakewood, WI

Environmentalism and "Going Green" have crept into everyday language, which makes being a member of Earthtones that much more exciting. It's a great feeling to see the things that captivate you actually taking hold in the world and specifically on campus. Yet no matter how much these ideas become commonplace, there will always be a place for Earthtones. Earthtones above all else has broadened my knowledge of the world around me. Whether it is working on a stream stabilizing banks and removing log jams in conjunction with Biology Club or working at the Dunes removing invasive species, I've seen a lot more natural areas in Northwest Indiana than most people think even exists. Earthtones provides the opportunity to not only find these areas but to make them better. We provide man power to help get large projects accomplished.

The other facet of Earthtones, which I enjoy just as much, is education. Even with everything "Green" happening in the world today, there is still so much confusion on the topic. Almost every meeting of this group is an opportunity to discuss important issues within environmentalism and what each of us can do. I have had opportunities to present to the group, to listen to great presenters from around the area, have a variety of off-campus opportunities opened up to me, and even the chance to present to elementary students. No matter what your interests are, they have environmental impacts, and I've been able through Earthtones to explore these impacts and help people live in more sustainable ways.

For more information about Earthtones visit  
[www.valpo.edu/student/earthton/](http://www.valpo.edu/student/earthton/)